

## COVID-19 Vaccine Cost, Billing and Reimbursement

### December 29, 2020

The following list of resources includes information on COVID-19 vaccine cost, billing and reimbursement. Health care providers will play an important role in the acceptance of COVID-19 vaccine(s). Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost. Providers participating in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program contractually agree to administer a COVID-19 vaccine regardless of an individual's ability to pay, regardless of their coverage status, and also may not seek any reimbursement, including through balance billing, from a vaccine recipient.

**Providers who have questions about billing or reimbursement of vaccine administration for patients covered by private insurance should contact the respective health plan.** People without health insurance or whose insurance does not provide coverage of the vaccine may also receive COVID-19 vaccine at no cost. Providers administering vaccine to people without health insurance or whose insurance does not provide coverage of the vaccine may request reimbursement for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccine through the [Provider Relief Fund](#). Vaccine recipients cannot be charged for the cost of the vaccine, vaccine administration and shall not have any out-of-pocket costs.

### Insured Individuals

Providers can bill the insurance for an office visit when administering COVID-19 vaccine if the visit meets the criteria for office visit coding under a recipient's plan. Vaccine providers will be able to charge an administration fee to the insurance. However, participating vaccine providers must administer COVID-19 vaccine regardless of the vaccine recipient's ability to pay COVID-19 vaccine administration fees or coverage status, as stated in the CDC Provider Agreement.

### Under-Insured Individuals

Participating vaccine providers must administer COVID-19 vaccine regardless of the vaccine recipient's ability to pay COVID-19 vaccine administration fees or coverage status, as stated in the CDC Provider Agreement. For uninsured patients, the vaccine provider can seek reimbursement for an administration fee from the HRSA Provider Relief Fund. Vaccine recipients cannot be charged for the cost of the vaccine, vaccine administration and shall not have any out-of-pocket costs.

### Medicaid

Iowa Medicaid will reimburse vaccine administration at a fee per dose administered. The final fee and mechanism for reimbursement will be announced via instructional letter once finalized.

## Medicare

CMS released a [set of toolkits](#) for providers, states and insurers to help the health care system prepare to swiftly administer the vaccine once it is available. These resources are designed to increase the number of providers that can administer the vaccine and ensure adequate reimbursement for administering the vaccine in Medicare, while making it clear to private insurers and Medicaid programs their responsibility to cover the vaccine at no charge to beneficiaries.

Medicare payment rates for COVID-19 vaccine administration will be \$28.39 to administer single-dose vaccines. For a COVID-19 vaccine requiring a series of 2 or more doses, the initial dose(s) administration payment rate will be \$16.94, and \$28.39 for the administration of the final dose in the series. These rates recognize the costs involved in administering the vaccine, including the additional resources involved with required public health reporting, conducting important outreach and patient education, and spending additional time with patients answering any questions they may have about the vaccine. These rates will also be geographically adjusted.

### Payment Allowances and Effective Dates for COVID-19 Vaccines and their Administration during the Public Health Emergency:

Code	CPT Short Descriptor	Labeler Name	Vaccine/Procedure Name	Payment Allowance	Effective Dates
91300	SARSCOV2 VAC 30MCG/0.3ML IM	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine	\$0.010*	xx/xx/xxxx – TBD
0001A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 1ST	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – First Dose	\$16.940**	xx/xx/xxxx – TBD
0002A	ADM SARSCOV2 30MCG/0.3ML 2ND	Pfizer	Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – Second Dose	\$28.390**	xx/xx/xxxx – TBD
91301	SARSCOV2 VAC 100MCG/0.5ML IM	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine	\$0.010*	xx/xx/xxxx – TBD
0011A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML 1ST	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – First Dose	\$16.940**	xx/xx/xxxx – TBD
0012A	ADM SARSCOV2 100MCG/0.5ML 2ND	Moderna	Moderna Covid-19 Vaccine Administration – Second Dose	\$28.390**	xx/xx/xxxx – TBD

\* Since we anticipate that providers, initially, will not incur a cost for the product, CMS will update the payment allowance at a later date. Providers should not bill for the product if they received it for free.

\*\* These rates will also be geographically adjusted for many providers. Certain settings utilize other payment methodologies, such as payment based on reasonable costs.